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NEWS RELEASE

REVOCATION SOUGHT FOR AGENT WHO SOLD NOTES IN HIS COMPANY

February 9, 2006. Salt Lake City, Utah . . . Francine A. Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce announced that the Division of Securities filed a petition to revoke the license of securities agent Richard E. Haskell, of Sandy Utah. Haskell is an agent of World Group Securities, Inc. (WGS), based in Duluth, Georgia.

According to the Division's petition, in 2001, Haskell borrowed \$25,000 from an investor who was also employed by his broker-dealer. The money was to be used by Haskell's personal company, Haskell Professional Services, LLC. Haskell issued three promissory notes to the investor. The notes promised 24% interest. Haskell told the investor that there was no risk with the promissory notes. However, the petition alleges that Haskell did not disclose that he had a state tax lien and judgments entered against him. Haskell had repaid only \$4,595 of the amount taken from the investor until June 2005 when he repaid an additional \$20,000 to avoid a criminal conviction.

The State's petition also alleges that Haskell falsely told WGS that he had not sold any securities other than those approved by the firm and had not accepted money from other WGS agents. As grounds for the revocation of Haskell's license, the Division alleges six counts including securities fraud, engaging in dishonest and unethical business practices, and filing false documents with the Division. In addition to revocation, the Division seeks a \$10,000 fine.

Haskell has 30 days to file an answer and request a hearing to contest the allegations.